

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, AU

SUBJ: AUSTRIA-SECOND NUCLEAR POWER PROJECT

REF: (A) VIENNA'S 7940; (B) VIENNA'S 8145

1. PER REFTEL, USDOC MAJOR EXPORT PROJECTS DIVISION
CONTACTED WESTINGHOUSE WASHINGTON OFFICE (VP INTERNATIONAL)
REGARDING THE REPORTED WESTINGHOUSE DECISION NOT TO BID THIS
PROJECT. WESTINGHOUSE PITTSBURG HEADQUARTERS HAS CONFIRMED
YOUR INFORMATION AND ALSO STATED THAT THERE IS NO PLAN TO
RECONSIDER THE DECISION. WESTINGHOUSE IS FULLY AWARE OF
THE EMBASSY'S GOOD EFFORTS AND APPRECIATES THE SUPPORT TO
WESTINGHOUSE OVER THE PAST YEAR.

2. WE MET WITH GENERAL ELECTRIC NUCLEAR ENERGY DIVISION
DURING WEEK OF SEPT 9 IN SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA, AND HAD
AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE STATUS OF THE GE BID ON THIS
PROJECT. GE IS CONCERNED WITH THE REQUIREMENT TO FOLLOW THE
AUSTRIAN CODES, STANDARDS, AND LICENSING CRITERIA. GE PLANS
TO BID WITH PROVEN USAEC CRITERIA WHICH GE FEELS ARE
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EQUALLY VALID FOR THIS PROJECT. GE HAS APPRISED THE

AUSTRIANS OF ITS INTENTIONS AND HAS BEEN PROVIDING THE AUSTRIANS WITH INFORMATION AND DATA SUPPORTING THE GE POSITION. TO DATE THE AUSTRIANS HAVE NOT COMMENTED ON THE ACCEPTABILITY OF THE GE INTENTION TO BID WITH US CRITERIA. DURING THIS DISCUSSION, MAJOR PROJECTS COMMENTED TO GE THAT THIS SITUATION SHOULD BE KNOWN TO THE EMBASSY AND IT WAS AGREED THAT WE WOULD PASS THIS ON GE'S BEHALF. THE GE PROJECT ENGINEER RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS BID WAS SCHEDULED TO GO TO THE GE ZURICH OFFICE WEEK OF SEPT 16 TO FINALIZE THE BID AND DEVELOP FURTHER STRATEGY REGARDING THE USE OF US AEC CRITERIA. GE PLANS TO BRIEF THE EMBASSY VIENNA ON THIS SUBJECT IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

3. REGARDING THE AUSTRIAN DELEGATION ATTENDING THE 23-27 SEPT WORLD ENERGY CONFERENCE IN DETROIT, WE CAN CONFIRM BOTH GE AND BABCOCK & WILCOX ARE TAKING FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE AVAILABILITY OF THESE PARTICIPANTS WHILE THEY ARE IN THE U.S. BABCOCK & WILCOX WASHINGTON OFFICE HAS INFORMED US THAT THE CORPORATION HAS MANAGED TO INVITE THE WHOLE AUSTRIAN DELEGATION IN MEETINGS AND TOURS OF B & W FACILITIES AND PROJECT SITES DURING THE WEEK BEFORE THE CONFERENCE. WE WILL KEEP YOU ADVISED OF RESULTS OF THE AUSTRIAN DELEGATION VISIT TO THE US. WE AGAIN WISH TO COMMEND THE EMBASSY FOR ITS TIMELY AND DETAILED REPORTING ON THIS PROJECT.

4. EMBASSY'S CONCERN AS EXPRESSED IN REF B PASSED ON TO GE BY MEPD. INGERSOLL

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